

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) A method of reducing a bacterial population [[:]] in a subject in need of [[said]] treatment, said method comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising an isolated phage tail that inhibits growth of a target bacterium, thereby reducing the growth of the bacterial population.

8. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 7, wherein:

said subject is a human;

said subject is a primate, a food, work, display, or a companion animal;

said target bacterium is Escherichia, Staphylococcus, Pseudomonas, or Streptococcus;

said method further comprises administering a second therapeutic or antimicrobial agent, including administering systemically, parenterally, orally, topically, or by inhalation, catheter, or drain tube;

said method results in a relative decrease in said population of at least 10-1000 fold; or

said method results in a decrease in detectability of said population by at least 5-50 fold.

9-10. (Canceled).

11. (Previously presented) A method of treating a bacterial infection in a subject in need of such treatment, said method comprising a step of administering a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising an isolated phage tail, wherein said isolated phage tail inhibits growth of a target bacterium, thereby treating the bacterial infection.

12. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 11, wherein:

said subject is a human;

said subject is a primate, a food, work, display, or companion animal;

said pharmaceutical composition is administered systemically, parenterally, orally, topically, or by inhalation, catheter, or drain tube; or

said pharmaceutical composition is administered in combination with a second therapeutic [[or]] selected from the group consisting of an anti-bacterial agent, [[e.g.,]] an anti-microbial, inflammatory, and [[or]] anti-inflammatory agent.

13-21. (Canceled).

22. (Previously presented) A method of treating a bacterial colonization in a eukaryote experiencing colonization by a target bacterium, said method comprising administering to said eukaryote a defined dose therapeutic anti-bacterial composition comprising an isolated phage tail, thereby treating said bacterial colonization.

23. (Original) The method of Claim 22, wherein:

said eukaryote is a mammal, including a primate;

said eukaryote is a food, work, display, or companion animal;

said target bacterium is a pathogenic, nosocomial, or pyogenic bacterium;

said target bacterium is an Escherichia, Staphylococcus, Pseudomonas, or Streptococcus bacterium;

said composition is administered systemically, parenterally, orally, topically, or by inhalation, catheter, or drain tube;

said colonization has already been treated with an anti-microbial or antibiotic;

said colonization has been diagnosed to be susceptible to the selected composition; or

said eukaryote is also inoculated with another bacterium to replace said target bacterium.

24-25. (Canceled).